

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AF-06 IO-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /078 W

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2227

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJVAIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 508

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, DA

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: TIMING OF DANISH RECOGNITION OF MPLA

1. DURING FEBRUARY 17 MEETING, EIGEL JORGENSEN, PERMANENT
UNDER SECRETARY OF DANISH FOREIGN OFFICE, TOLD ME THAT DENMARK
IS UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO EXTEND REOGNITION TO MPLA AT AN
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EARLY DATE. THIS PRESURE EMANATES BOTH FROM NORDIC CIRCLES

AND FROM SOME MEMBERS OF E-C NINE. HE CLAIMED THAT HE IS PRESENTLY IN TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH HIS COUNTER PARTS IN STOCKHOLM AND SOME E-C CAPITALS AND DANES HAVE DECIDED THAT IF SWEDEN AND FRANCE RECOGNIZE MPLA DURING NEXT 2-3 DAYS, DENMARK WOULD BE UNABLE TO RESIST DOMESTIC TRADE UNION PRESSURES AND WOULD FOLLOW SUIT.

2. NORDIC POSITON: JORGENSEN SAID THAT SWEDEN MAY RECOGNIZE MPLA AS EARLY AS FEB 18 OR 19. IF THIS IS THE CASE, DENMARK WOULD COORDINATE ITS POSITION WITH NORWAY, BECAUSE DANES WANT TO ACT SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH NORWAY. IF ONLY SWEDEN RECOGNIZES MPLA BUT NO E-C COUNTRY, THEN DANES COULD PROBABLY HOLD OUT A LITTLE LONGER.

3. E-C: JORGENSEN ALSO CLAIMED THAT AS RESULT HIS SOUNDINGS, HE BELIEVES FRENCH RECOGNITION MAY COME AS EARLY AS FEB 18, THEREBY BREAKING RANK WITH OTHER E-C MEMBERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE HOPES THAT ANY ACTION ON RECOGNITION BY E-C WOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER THE NEXT E-C MINISTERIAL MEETING, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FEB. 23. SOURCE CLAIMED THAT FOR DOMESTIC REASONS (RATIFICATION OF POLISH-FRG AGREEMENT), GERMANS WOULD PREFER NOT TO FACE THIS ISSUE UNTIL NEXT MONTH.

4. IN A NUTSHELL, JORGENSEN CLAIMS THAT FRANCE AND SWEDEN ARE CLOSE TO RECOGNIZING MPLA. E-C MEMBERS ARE SPLIT ON THIS ISSUE, BUT IF FRANCE AND SWEDEN BOTH RECOGNIZE MPLA DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR DENMARK TO WITHHOLD RECOGNITION MUCH LONGER.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH STATE 037563 NOT RECEIVED IN TIME FOR MEETING, I ARGUED AGAINST EARLY ACTION SINCE IT WOULD APPEAR TO REWARD MPLA FOR MILITARY VICTORY WON WITH SOVIET-CUBAN SUPPORT. DESPITE MY EFFORTS IT WAS CLEAR THAT IF FRENCH AND SWEDES SHOULD ACT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, DANES WILL FOLLOW SHORTLY. DEAN

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